



MARINE CORPS AIR STATION CHERRY POINT, N.C. - Senior Marine personnel, including Gen. William Nyland, assistant commandant, and Silke Hagee, the Commandant of the Marine Corps' wife, and Sgt. Maj. John L. Estrada, Sgt. Maj. of the Marine Corps, cut the ribbon during the opening ceremony for the first 29 homes in the new junior enlisted housing Oct. 17. The \$41.5 million housing project replaced homes in Slocum Village, which were first built in 1952. Contract plans still have 1,015 new or renovated homes to be completed by the end of fiscal year 2007.

Photo by Cpl. Nathaniel C. LeBlanc

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION MIRAMAR, Calif. - Maj. Gen. James F. Amos, commanding general of 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, and aerobatic pilot Sean Tucker fly over a San Diego neighborhood Oct. 16 in the Oracle Challenger. The two pilots cruised the airways in the one-of-a-kind 400 horsepower propeller-driven biplane and performed a few of Tucker's signature heart-stopping moves, including the Centrifuge and Lomcevak. Tucker and his six-man Team Oracle crew were part of the action-packed line up of performers that took part in the 2003 Miramar Air Show Oct. 17-19.

Photo by Sgt. Valerie A. Martinez



MARINE CORPS AIR STATION IWAKUNI, Japan - Kaelynn Scarbrough, 3, asks McGruff the Crime Dog for an autograph at the Kids' Expo held at IronWorks Gym here. The four-hour long extravaganza provided children ages 5-16 with an opportunity to learn first-hand about the programs and activities open to them aboard the station.

Photo by Pfc. Giovanni Lobello



OCEANSIDE, Calif. - An estimated 80,000 lined the streets of Oceanside to watch 10,000 Marines, Sailors, veterans and two high-school bands march down Coast Highway during the Defenders of Freedom Parade Oct. 25.

Photo by Sgt. Jim Heuston



WASHINGTON - With the Capitol behind him, a B Company Marine shows his unit pride by holding the company guidon high in the air. Nearly 1,000 Marines from Marine Barracks 8th & I invaded the National Mall Nov. 14 on the four-and-a-half mile battalion run from the foot of the Capitol building to the Lincoln Memorial in recognition of the Corps' 228th birthday.

Photo by Sgt. Leah A. Cobble



WASHINGTON - An estimated 18,900 participants crossed the starting line to run in the 28th Marine Corps Marathon Oct. 26, while another 150,000 watched or volunteered. The Marine Corps Marathon is nicknamed the "People's Marathon" because anyone is allowed to run in it and there is no prize money for finishing.

Photo by Cpl. Brian Buckwalter



MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. - David Lee, a Camp Pendleton firefighter, showers the scorching coals left from the Paradise fire that threatened Oakvale Park residents Oct. 29. Twenty-two Camp Pendleton firefighters assisted numerous other firefighters in battling the fire, working 24-hour shifts. The Paradise Fire started in Valley Center Oct. 26 and burned more than 56,700 acres before it was surrounded and contained.

Photo by Cpl. Jose L. Garcia